

# **Adlington Town Council - Annual Report to Electors**

**2010-2011**

## **Chairman's Report**

This is an overall review of the year - a detailed report of the work done by the Council in the year follows. As well as being the end of this year May 2011 also marks the end of the 4 year cycle for the Council since the last election so it is appropriate to include some general comments about the whole period.

Since the election of 2007 there have been a number of changes in Councillors due to a death and resignations arising from sickness work commitments etc. However throughout the period there has always been a full complement of Councillors as it was possible on each occasion to fill the vacancy. Indeed there was always more than one "volunteer" for each vacancy. Being a Councillor is purely voluntary, it involves some time and work and there is no financial reward. It is pleasant to record that in this period there have been sufficient people to undertake these duties.

Throughout this year and the whole period the Council has undertaken a wide range of duties in representing Adlington and the amount of work involved has seemingly increased year on year. Reviewing planning applications is very time consuming the production of "Update" is a major task in particular for the Clerk but this is a good point of contact with the Town. This year this contact has been enhanced by a Council web-site and hopefully is something which can be expanded and be of great benefit to the Town.

The balance between the provision of services and raising money to pay for those services is always difficult but is and has been a major role of the Council. Once again in this year the Council maintained the same level of precept as in the previous year. This was done whilst still maintaining the same level of services in particular the provision of hanging baskets support for local groups and the issue of "Update" .It is worth noting that in this year and indeed in previous years the precept levied by the Town Council per household is one of the very lowest for the whole of Chorley Borough Council area.

Throughout this year the Council has operated efficiently and economically over a wide range of activities. As in many fields administration has become more complex. At present the Council has the advantage of having an extremely competent and hard working Clerk and her efforts in supporting the Council are much appreciated.

# **Clerk's Report**

## **Finance**

At £17,500 the precept requested in 2010 was the same as in 2009. Grants totalling £850 were awarded to local organisations who applied through the Community Awards scheme. Expenditure this year was lower than the budget projections, mainly because the Council had a Chairman rather than a Mayor, saving the expenses associated with official engagements, and money allocated for election expenses was not required as the election was uncontested. The £2460.54 remaining from the current year will be carried forward into 2011-12 as reserve funding. The Appendix gives more details of the year's income and expenditure.

## **Councillors**

The Council co-opted **Cllr Kimberley Snape** onto the Council in May 2010. At 18 years old, Kim is Adlington Town Council's youngest ever Councillor. 2011 was the election year for the Town Council, with ten of the Councillors re-elected in an Uncontested Election. **Cllrs Bernard Cliffe** and **David Snape** did not stand for re-election, leaving two vacancies in the West Ward.

## **Village Matters**

Hanging baskets were provided in central areas of the village over the summer, and additional funding was allocated to the provision of bulbs and plants for planters around the village. The decision has been made to reduce the number of baskets this summer, retaining as many in key areas of the village as possible. Sponsorship from local businesses will be encouraged.

The Council continues to respond to problems reported by residents, and has addressed problems relating to dog fouling, litter, parking, footpaths, flooding and unadopted roads by bringing these to the attention of the relevant authorities.

Additionally, the need for traffic control measures, street repairs and speed monitoring has been under scrutiny, with requests for investigation of these problems addressed to the Highways authority during the year. Following the adverse winter weather conditions, the Council contacted them to express its concern at the time taken to clear main access routes through the village.

The Council has supported the retention of both the **Red Rose Runner** bus service and the **Welfare Rights** sessions servicing the village, both under threat following cuts to funding, by making representations to the service providers.

Village **notice boards** and **benches** have been repainted with help from the Community Payback team.

The village was once again entered for the **Lancashire Best Kept Village** competition, with **White Bear Marina** winning a Certificate of Merit award in the "Industrial/Commercial" section. The Council hopes for further success in the competition this year.

The **Update** newsletter is produced and distributed in Adlington three times a year, in April, August and December, and contains contact details for the Council and information about the local community. The **website** [www.adlintoncouncil.co.uk](http://www.adlintoncouncil.co.uk) is now up and running and in addition to contact information gives access to an archive of minutes and newsletters for the past year and links to other websites of local interest.

## **Planning**

Several major planning applications have been considered by the Council this year and objections and comments raised with the planning authority. These include building of flats on the old **Ambulance Hall** site on **Granville Street** which has now been approved; the building of additional properties in the **Park Road/Acresfield** area, part of which was approved, and the use of land on the outskirts of the village for **Paintballing** activity, which has now been refused, although the continuation of this activity on the site continues to cause problems for some residents. In addition comments have been submitted relating to recent proposals for retail use of the old **Balloons Galore** site on Chorley Road which is still under consideration. Plans to use the **Grove Farm** site for housing and "park and ride" for the railway station were refused by Chorley Council but are now the subject of an appeal by the developers.

In addition the Council submitted a major report to Chorley Council in response to the "**Sites for Chorley**" consultation which set out the Planning Authority proposals for the near future in relation to housing, employment, leisure, open space and community facilities.

The Council continues to monitor Planning Applications which affect the residents of Adlington, and welcomes representations from all interested parties

## **Meetings**

The Council meets every month and the meetings are well-attended. Visitors are welcomed and have this year included many residents with issues and problems they wished to bring to the Council's attention. Other visitors have included representatives from Chorley Council Planning Department, Lancashire County Council Highways Department, Fairpoint PLC and the Welfare Rights Service. The meetings have also been attended by Janice Chamberlain, the local Police volunteer.

## **Events**

This year's Remembrance Day service and procession was well-supported by local groups and individuals. The annual Carol Concert with Rivington & Adlington Brass Band had a good attendance despite the cold weather.

## **Representation**

The Town Council has been represented throughout the year on several external bodies: the Lancashire Association of Local Councils, Adlington & District Community Association, Chorley Council Parish Liaison and Adlington in Bloom.

**Adlington Town Council continues to address local issues and local problems and welcomes the involvement of all members of the local community in ensuring a positive future for the village.**

## Adlington Town Council Members 2011/15

Councillor	Address	Phone	Ward
Katie Ellison	19 Westhoughton Road, Adlington, PR7 4EU	01257 481433	Central
June Molyneaux	36 Westhoughton Road, Adlington, PR7 4ET	01257 481184	Central
Kimberley Snape	14 The Avenue, Adlington, PR6 9RX	01257 483981	Central
Clive Hart	10, Ollerton Street, Adlington, PR6 9LF	01257 483194	North
Jeanette Lowe	10 Nightingale Street, Adlington, PR6 9LR	01257 481415	North
Florence Molyneaux	36 Westhoughton Road, Adlington, PR7 4ET	01257 481184	North
Douglas Hoyle	Tryfaen, Daisy Hill Drive, Adlington, PR6 9NE	01257 481999	West
Barry Lee	18 St Paul's Close, Adlington, PR6 9RS	01257 481540	East
Elizabeth Sumner	24 Lancaster Close, Adlington, PR6 9RA	01257 480043	East
Tony Wilson	1 Highfield Close, Adlington, PR6 9RL	01257 481776	East
There are currently two vacancies in the West Ward of Adlington			

**Town Clerk** Linda Crouch, 6 Coniston Avenue, Adlington,  
PR6 9QH, telephone 01257 474152

Website address [www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk](http://www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk)

## Appendix - Financial Summary 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011

<b>Expenditure</b>	
Clerk's Salary	4,242.36
Administrative & Telephone Costs	170.63
Training Costs	346.98
Insurance	692.50
Audit	185.00
Mayor's Inauguration	106.50
Hanging Baskets	5,550.00
RBL Wreath	16.50
Subscriptions	651.20
Newsletter – Printing & Production	1,205.00
Newsletter - Distribution	600.00
Neighbourhood Watch	48.00
Community Awards Scheme	850.00
Notice Board Cleaning & repair	56.77
Remembrance Sunday	415.74
Carol Service	415.00
Instant website & “helping hand”	105.82
New planter for Lower Adlington notice board	55.24
Bulbs for Town Council planter	24.96
VAT	72.78
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15810.98</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Precept	17500.00
Advertising Income	220.00
Bank Interest	6.26
VAT reclaimed	170.26
PAYE incentive payment	175.00
Donation from Heath Charnock PC	100.00
Donation from Anderton PC	100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18271.52</b>